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Description of the Hitherto Unknown Female of *Acerbas suttoni* Russell (Hesperiidae)

The hitherto unknown female of *Acerbas suttoni* Russell is described as follows. The conspecificity of *A. latefascia* and *A. suttoni* are discussed below. *Acerbas suttoni* Russell, 1984, Ent. Ber., 44:154-156; Figs 4a, b, 5, 6.

Female (Fig. 1): Forewing 20 mm. Head, palpi, ventral thorax, costa of legs, bases of forewing and ventral hindwing with green reflection. Antenna black, long, $3/5$ length of costa. Abdomen dark brown; segments with faint white hairs on posterior margin. Dorsal forewing: dark brown, detached hyaline spots in spaces 2 and 3, small upper cell spot, no apical and lower cell spots. Dorsal hindwing: white median band from dorsum to vein 6, obscured in space 1b. Cilia brown, becoming paler toward tornus. Ventral forewing: similar to dorsal side, but dorsum paler. Ventral hindwing: blackish brown, median band conspicuous and sharply defined; break in space 1b; trace of band reach to costa.

Material examined: Lambarese, 100 km N. of Palopo, Sulawesi, Indonesia. 28. VI. 1966 (Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu).

Three species of *Acerbas* have been described from Sulawesi, of which only *A. azona* Hewitson, 1866 has been known for a long time. De Jong (1982, Ent. Ber., 42:88-90) described *A. latefascia* from one female specimen from N. E. Sulawesi. He suggested that *A. latefascia* could be considered a subspecies of *A. duris* Mabille, 1883, though he mentioned that the examination of the male would be necessary to establish the exact relationship of these two taxa. Two years later, Russell (1984, Ent. Ber., 44:154-156) described *A. suttoni* from one male from Central Sulawesi. He mentioned that *A. suttoni* was the nearest to *A. duris dorka* Evans, 1949 from Borneo in appearance. However, he did not suggest the relationship between *A. latefascia* and *A. suttoni*. I suggested (in litt.) the conspecificity of *A. latefascia* and *A. suttoni* to both of the authors before I found

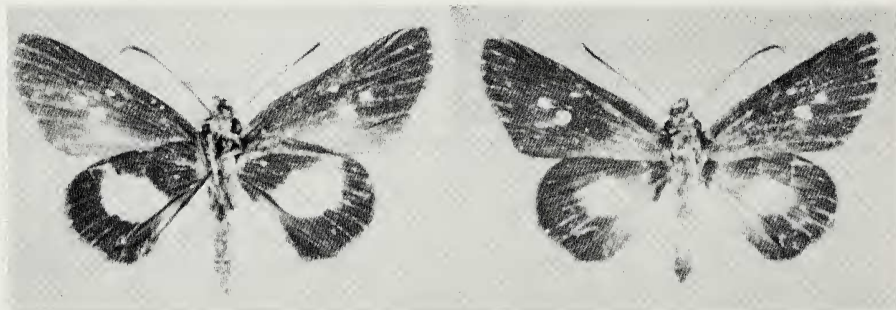


Fig. 1 Female of *Acerbas suttoni*: dorsal and ventral view.



Fig. 2. Distribution map of *Acerbas duris* complex.

the female specimen described here in the Bishop Museum. De Jong (pers. comm.) suggested that further examination was necessary. Russell (pers. comm.) denied my suggestion because he felt that the two taxa were clearly differentiated and that only slight sexual dimorphism were known in this genus. After examining the male and the female of *A. suttoni* (I could not examine *A. latefascia* directly, but with a photograph), I retain my opinion that the two taxa could be the same species. The female markings do not differ markedly between *A. latefascia* and *A. suttoni*. The only significant difference is that the hindwing median band is clearer and wider in *A. latefascia* than in *A. suttoni*. This degree of difference, however, is not uncommon within intraspecific variation. Biogeographically, the two taxa are allopatric, and are, no doubt, congeneric with *A. duris* as both authors suggested (Fig. 2). I believe *A. latefascia* and *A. suttoni* should be treated as subspecies of a single species, but I withhold conclusive judgment. *A. suttoni* is now known from two males (the holotype and another in Tsukiyama collection in Japan) and the single female which are described here. *A. latefascia* is only known from single type female. Discovery of male *A. latefascia* is desirable to confirm my suggestion.

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